

REMARKS

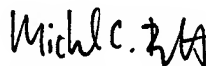
The specification has been amended to recite the relationship with the parent case.

The claims have been amended to put them into the same form they were in prior to the filing of this continuation. Claims 54-85 here correspond to claims 26-51 and 54-59 in the parent case prior to this filing.

The Office has already indicated that the subject matter of these claims is patentable except for an alleged double patenting issue with respect to U.S. Patent Nos. 6,258,576; 5,612,540; and 6,241,662. (*See*, Advisory Action dated April 7, 2003, in parent case). Applicants are currently working to correct an erroneous assignment associated with U.S. Patent No. 6,241,662 and may be willing to file a terminal disclaimer to overcome the double patenting rejection, if maintained in this continuation application.

It is believed that no fee is due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment; however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct those fees from Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Account No.: 50-1212/TUUT:010USC1/MCB.

Respectfully submitted,



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